

Memorandum

Tab 18

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 20, 2014

Reference No.: 4.9
Information

From: ANDRE BOUTROS
Executive Director

Subject: **HEARING – PROPOSITION 1B HIGHWAY RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY ACCOUNT**

ISSUE:

The Highway Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) Program is in its fourth programming cycle. Savings generated from projects allocated in the prior cycles are available for reprogramming to new projects. The available balance for reprogramming is \$15.278 million, \$5.332 million for Part 1 and \$9.946 million for Part 2.

The HRCSA Program Guidelines stipulate that at least one public hearing will be held before the California Transportation Commission (Commission) adopts its 2014 HRCSA program of projects. The hearing provides an opportunity for HRCSA applicants to familiarize the Commission with the project nominations received by the July 1, 2014 deadline. The schedule also calls for the issuance of staff recommendations by September 19, 2014, with the adoption of the 2014 HRCSA program of projects at the Commission's October 8, 2014 meeting.

BACKGROUND:

On November 7, 2006, the voters approved Proposition 1B. Proposition 1B provides \$250 million to fund the HRCSA program. The HRCSA program includes two sub-programs, Part 1 provides \$150 million for highway railroad grade separations derived from the California Public Utilities Commission's Section 190 grade separation priority list and Part 2 provides \$100 million for non-Section 190 high-priority grade crossing improvements.

Specifically, Proposition 1B authorized the \$250 million for HRCSA as follows:

Part 1. Proposition 1B provided that \$150 million from the HRCSA shall be made available for allocation to projects on the priority list established by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) pursuant to the process established in Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 2450) of Division 3 of the Streets and Highways Code, with two exceptions: (1) a dollar for dollar match of non-state funds shall be provided for each project, and (2) the \$5 million maximum in Section 2454 shall not apply to HRCSA funds.

Part 2. Proposition 1B provided that the remaining \$100 million from the HRCSA shall be made available to high-priority railroad crossing improvements, including grade separation projects, that

are not part of the process established in Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 2450) of Division 3 of the Streets and Highways Code. These may include projects at any of the following:

- (a) Crossings where freight and passenger rail share the affected rail line.
- (b) Crossings with a high incidence of motor vehicle-rail or pedestrian-rail collisions.
- (c) Crossings with a high potential for savings in rail and roadway traffic delay.
- (d) Crossings where an improvement will result in quantifiable emission benefits.
- (e) Crossings where the improvement will improve the flow of rail freight to or from a port facility.

The Commission will adopt the 2014 HRCSA program of projects under both parts from projects nominated by Caltrans or local agencies.

Attachment 1 – Highway Railroad Crossing Safety Account Nominations 2014 Program

Highway Railroad Crossing Safety Account Nominations
2014 Program
(Dollars in Thousands)

Reference No. 4.9
August 20, 2012
Attachment 1

County	Nominated By	Project Name	PUC List	Part 1	Part 2	Enviro. Clearance	Const. Start	Total Project	HRCSA Request
Los Angeles	ACE Construction A	Fullerton Road Grade Separation Project	x	x	x	Oct-13	Mar-16	142,923	20,000
Los Angeles	SCRRA	Hellman Road Grade Crossing Safety Improvement			x	Apr-11	Nov-14	2,750	2,006
Los Angeles	SCRRA	Ramona Boulevard Grade Crossing Safety Improvement			x	Dec-14	Mar-15	3,030	1,515
Los Angeles	SCRRA	Citrus Avenue Grade Crossing Safety Improvement			x	Dec-14	Mar-15	3,030	1,515
		Total Nominations						151,733	25,036

Note: The above projects costs and requests are based on a preliminary review of the nominations and are subject to revision. The list does not reflect priority order.